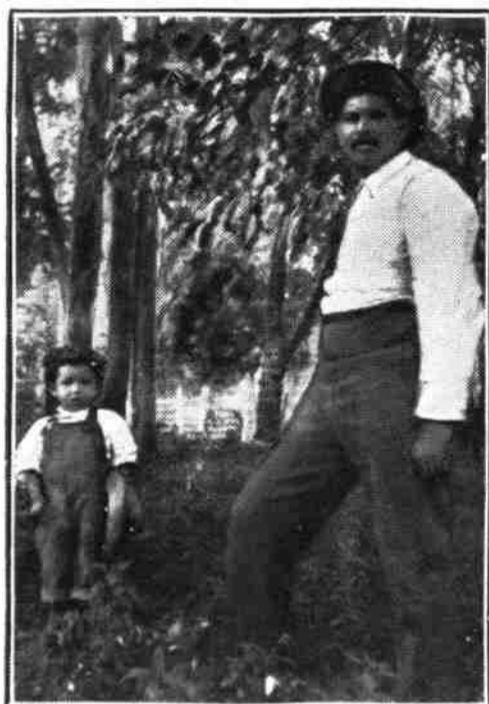


## Benjamin Carr

Hartsville, Tenn.

MR. CARR is a prosperous farmer who spends his summers on the farm at Hartsville, and his winters in Nashville, forty miles away.

He was born in Tennessee in 1862 on the farm of his mother's former master. Up to the age of twenty years he did not attend school a single day. He was early obliged to go to work upon the farm. His first wages were \$30 a year, for doing work that boys now receive from \$10 to \$13 per month for. This sum his mother appropriated for the use of the family. He worked under discouraging circumstances until he was able to earn \$10 per month and his board, and he finally saved \$75. He borrowed \$25 from a white gentleman, and bought a piece of land. He borrowed a pair of mules



Benjamin Carr

from another white man, borrowed a cow from another man, and started farming for himself.

The first year he made nearly enough to pay for the farm and its equipment. He then took time to go to the district school long enough to read and write. After a few years he went to Roger Williams University at Nashville, and added to his education so that he was able to do business for himself. He is now a trustee of the university.

Careful management and steady, hard work have developed the farm of about four hundred acres, with fine pastures, good orchards, and a two-story, seven-room house, and two tenant houses, several barns, with teams, horse mules, sheep, cows, hogs, etc.

Mr. Carr was one of the speakers at the National Negro Business League at Louisville, in August, 1909, giving an address on "Succeeding as a Farmer." In addition to his property at Hartsville, he has a home in Nashville, where the family spend the winter in order that the children may attend Fisk University. Mr. Carr says, "I have been handicapped in my own efforts because I lack the proper literary training, but I hope to so thoroughly equip my boy, now two years of age, that he can take care of an agricultural experiment station, if he so desires."

## Rev. Preston Taylor

Nashville, Tenn.

PREACHER, undertaker, landlord, owner of a park, proprietor of a cemetery, and a business man of rare ability.

He was born in Shreveport, La., November 7, 1849, of slave parents. In early childhood he expressed a desire to become a minister, and this ambition became the potent factor in his life. This he regards as his chief calling, though a man of large business affairs.



Rev. Preston Taylor

He preaches twice every Sunday at the Lee Avenue Christian Church, Nashville, of which he has been pastor since 1892, and conducts the regular weekly prayer meeting. He allows nothing to interfere with this duty.

In 1864 he joined a band of soldiers marching along the road, and saw service at Richmond and Petersburg, and was at Appomattox when Lee surrendered. After the war he learned the trade of a stone cutter and marble worker, and, though he became a skilled workman, he was unable to secure work on account of the fact that white men refused to work with him. He worked on the Louisville & Chattanooga R. R., four years.

He joined the Christian Church, studied for the ministry, and has been a pastor for more than thirty-five years, fifteen of which he spent in Mt. Sterling, Ky., and the remainder has been in Nashville. He is trustee and financial agent of the Louisville Bible College. He constructed part of the Big Sandy Railroad, at a cost of \$75,000, winning the commendation of C. P. Huntington, president of the road.

Mr. Taylor is a public-spirited, philanthropic citizen, and many stories are told of his unostentatious yet most helpful charities. He conducts one of the largest undertaking establishments in the South; owns Greenwood Cemetery, a tract of forty acres, about four miles from Nashville; has recently purchased and improved "Greenwood Park," for colored people, and for one half of which he was offered \$40,000; was one of the prime movers for the purchase of a "Masonic Home" near Greenwood Park, and is a director of the One Cent Savings Bank. His wife was one of the original "Fisk Jubilee Singers."